Tuesday afternoon
March 16, 1943

Hello, Folks -

Were you surprised to hear from me at Winter Haven? - after so many attempts to get there, I was a little surprised to be writing from there. Nothing particularly startling happened on Sunday after I wrote, - we just had a lot of fun doing nothing.

Joe + I went out to the home of the girl with whom I had a date - a Jere Crook - We met the family - helped with dinner - me climbing an orange tree picking some for Mrs. Crook to make "ambrosia" with - and after dinner - we surprised everyone by starting to do the dishes! The girls had been teasing us about having to do them - and when we called their bluff - they jumped in and did them themselves. Joe + I looked at one another and said, "boy! - that was close"! The afternoon was spent just lounging around the house - with everyone talking. Tho late in the afternoon we got in the boat and rode around the lake just enjoying the leisureness of it all and good company. *(spelled both ways "rode" and "rowed")* We left up there around six - so we were back at camp about 9:30 - If we are here another week-end - I expect maybe we will try to duplicate it. - ? - Don't know tho cause whether

or not we are to here is something we can only guess at.-

All we know is - we've finished our training here, and with new crews around, we haven't flown for the last 2 days! Where we go from here is purely conjecture - presumably to a place to pick up our "own" new plane and then somewhere else for maybe just a bit more training to get used to our own ship - anyhow - I feel sure that it will probably be even foreign duty in the not too distant future. - Maybe even sooner for all I know. Anyway - we will worry about that when the time comes, eh? - But I just wanted you to have a vague idea of what was in the wind.-

We are now - officially in summer uniform as of Monday and believe me - it's not too soon. - The only thing is - with the prospects of shipping out - we have been afraid to send laundry - so it's getting just a mite embarassing to find something clean. - I finally took a chance the other day and sent some laundry in desparation - that's a sure sign we will get shipped soon.

Last night I finally got to go thru some of my junk and started loading my suitcase. I find most of the stuff is books and note books containing notes taken during my various classes as a cadet! - My clothes I guess I shall try to take with me, at least until such time as I know what I can or cannot use. - I don't know how I'm going to get all my ~~personal~~ personal stuff and all my equipment loaded in what I have to load it

in. but I'm sure trying to cut it down to a minimum. - You have no idea of what a job it is to keep things from growing out of bounds and not have too much to move - cause in most cases in the Army I'm the one who has to move it!

It seems to me I had something else to say - or add - but for the life of me - I can't remember it. - Oh, well - it will keep till next time, anyway. -

'Bye now, & love,
Frank